

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for initiating data capture in a digital camera, the method comprising:
 - 2 activating a text-recognition mode in the digital camera;
 - acquiring in the digital camera a text pattern to be recognized;
 - 4 selecting a first target scene at which to aim the digital camera;
 - capturing a first digital image of the first target scene;
 - 6 converting the first digital image to a first text file; and
 - searching the first text file for the text pattern.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 2 saving a digital representation of the first target scene, when the text
 - pattern is recognized.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital representation comprises the first text
 - 2 file.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital representation comprises a digital
 - 2 image.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein selecting a first target scene at which to aim the
 - 2 digital camera, capturing a first digital image of the first target scene, converting
 - the first digital image to a first text file, searching the first text file for the text
 - 4 pattern, and saving a digital representation of the first target scene, when the text

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11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 signaling when the text pattern is recognized.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

2 receiving a confirmation command in the digital camera;
 capturing a second digital image of a second target scene; and
4 saving a digital representation of the second target scene.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the digital representation comprises a text file.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the digital representation comprises a digital
2 image.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

2 capturing a second digital image of a second target scene after a
 predetermined delay; and
4 saving a digital representation of the second target scene

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the digital representation comprises a text file.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the digital representation comprises a digital
2 image.

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a controller for determining when the text pattern is recognized.

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means for converting the digital image to a text file; and

6 means for acquiring in the digital camera a text pattern to be searched
within the text file.

22. The digital camera of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for saving the text file when the text pattern is recognized.

23. The digital camera of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for compressing the digital image to produce a compressed
digital image;

4 means for saving the compressed digital image when the text pattern is
recognized.

24. The digital camera of claim 21, further comprising:

2 means for signaling when the text pattern is recognized.

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